

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Administrators
FEMA Regions I-X

FROM: David I. Maurstad
Assistant Administrator

DATE: 01-JUL-08

SUBJECT: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance

I am providing you the *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* to implement provisions under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 44 – *Emergency Management and Assistance*, specifically 44 CFR 201.6, *Local Mitigation Plans*. This *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* is the official guidance utilized by the local governments to develop and review new and updated local mitigation plans to meet the requirements of 44 CFR 201.

This guidance is effective for all local mitigation plans approved by FEMA on or after October 1, 2008. This document supersedes Part 3 and the corresponding crosswalk in Part 4 of the *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance under DMA 2000*, also known as the “Blue Book” (released March 2004), to address the requirements for the development and review of new or updated local mitigation plans.

The revised *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* contains several significant changes:

- Provides guidance on the required 5-year review and update of local mitigation plans;
- Incorporates requirements for flood mitigation plans previously administered in 44 CFR 78, *Flood Mitigation Assistance*;
- Provides comparisons between planning requirements in 44 CFR Part 201, *Mitigation Planning*, and the Community Rating System (CRS); and
- Incorporated policies and frequently asked questions on local mitigation planning that were released since the original March 2004 guidance was issued.

This publication is one of three guidance documents on implementing the Mitigation Planning regulations in 44 CFR Part 201. In addition to this *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance*, the Blue Book currently includes the State Standard and Enhanced Mitigation Plans guidance (44 CFR 201.4 and 201.5); and a separate *Tribal Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* document will be produced for Tribal Mitigation Plans (44 CFR 201.7).

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I am requesting that you provide this new guidance to your States Hazard Mitigation Officers for dissemination to local governments. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Kathleen Smith, Risk Assessment Branch, by telephone at (202) 646-4372.

Attachment

cc: Mitigation Division Directors, FEMA Regions I-X